

# **Herman Melville**The Great American Novelist

Herman Melville, famed author of Moby Dick, grew up in the Albany area during the 1830s. He was born in New York City in 1819, but his family moved to Upstate New York during his youth. Unfortunately, Melville's father died when he was 12, so it is assumed that his time in Albany was not a happy one. He briefly attended the Albany Academies, but had to quit after his family fell into financial despair after his father's death. Keep reading to discover local sites in Albany with ties to this great American novelist!





#### **First Church in Albany**

110 North Pearl St. Albany, NY 12207 | 518-463-4449

Herman's mother, Maria Gansevoort Melville, was the daughter of General Peter Gansevoort of Albany. The Gansevoort family were pillars of the original First Dutch Reformed Church (located closer to State Street). The historic church is still open today, now located on the corner of North Pearl and Orange Streets. Visitors can view the oldest pulpit in the United States and the Tiffany stained-glass windows.

#### McGeary's Irish Pub

4 Clinton Square, Albany NY 12207 | 518-463-1455 Melville's childhood home in Albany still stands today! It is a pink building in Clinton Square, located to the left of McGeary's Irish Pub. Take a peek at the historical marker noting 3 Clinton Square, the Melville family home from 1834-1838. Then, swing into McGeary's to raise a pint and cheers to Melville!





#### **Hudson River**

City of Albany

Who knows? Maybe the Hudson River provided a touch of inspiration for some of Melville's future writings. Let the Hudson River inspire you! Hop in an Upstate Kayak Rental and explore the shores of the river. Take a relaxing stoll down the scenic paths at the Corning Preserve. Or, pedal along the river on a CDPHP! Cycle, Albany's bikesharing program.

 $(ca.\ 1944)\ Herman\ Melville, head-and-shoulders\ portrait, facing\ left.\ , ca.\ 1944\ [Photograph]\ Retrieved\ from\ the\ Library\ of\ Congress,\ https://loc.gov/item/2005694855/.$ 







#### **Dutch Apple Cruises**

141 Broadway, Albany, NY 12202 | 518-463-0220

Another great way to experience the Hudson River is by hopping aboard a Dutch Apple Cruise! During the sightseeing cruises, a Hudson River Historian will narrate the history of Albany and point out sights along the river. Herman Melville was a sailor for part of his life, so what better way to channel the spirit of Melville by jumping aboard a Dutch Apple Cruise!

#### **CH Evans Brewing at the Albany Pump Station**

19 Quackenbush Square, Albany, NY 12207 | 518-447-9000 CH Evans Brewing at the Albany Pump Station often has historic brews (Albany Ale!) or craft beers inspired by local spots (Quackenbush Blonde!) on tap. This Spring, swing by the Albany Pump Station to enjoy a pint of "Melville's Wit," inspired by the literary legend. Plus, the brewery is located in the original pump station for the Albany Water works, so visitors can enjoy a dash of history with their pint of ale.





#### "White Whale Wednesdays" Book Club

19 Quackenbush Square, Albany NY 12207 | 518-465-0876
To celebrate Melville's 200th birthday, Historic Albany Foundation, Discover Albany and the NYS Writers Institute are hosting a Moby Dick Book Club at the Albany Pump Station. All are welcome for a fun discussion of the American classic on White Whale Wednesdays! April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10, August 14 & September 11 | Price: \$5 HAF Members & \$10 General Public (Per Night).

### TRAVELING WITH A GROUP?

## Contact our team!



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# **Group Friendly Restaurant Options**

Buca di Beppo The Hollow Bar & Kitchen

C H Evans Brewing Co. at the Albany Pump Station

Jack's Oyster House

The Century House Lucky Strike Social

The City Beer Hall New World Bistro Bar

Dave and Buster's Olde English Pub & Pantry

dp's Brasserie Recovery Sports Grill

Druthers Brewing Company Warehouse Grill & BBQ

Jay Cloutier will assist in planning an itinerary for your groups, including the perfect hotel and cuisine choices.



